

## 6.4 Tools and Strategies to Solve Equations with Exponents

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Solve for a Variable Raised to an Exponent  
p.368

### Solve for a Variable Raised to an Exponent

A cylindrical storage container with volume  $5000 \text{ m}^3$  has a radius equal to its height. The volume,  $V$ , is related to the radius,  $r$ , according to the equation  $V = \pi r^3$ . Determine the radius and height of the container to the nearest tenth of a metre.

Mar 24-11:12 AM

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$$V = 5000$$


$$V = \pi r^3$$

$$5000 = \pi r^3$$

$$\frac{5000}{\pi} = r^3$$

$$1592.4 = r^3$$

$$\sqrt[3]{1592.4} = r$$

$$11.7 = r$$


Handwritten calculations and a diagram of a cylinder. The cylinder has radius  $r$  and height  $r$ . The radius is labeled 11.7 and the height is also labeled 11.7.

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Solve for a Variable Exponent p.369

### Solve for a Variable Exponent

Lena has inherited \$1000. She decides to invest it into an account that pays 7.5% per year, compounded annually. The amount of the account,  $A$ , can be determined using the equation  $A = 1000(1.075)^n$ , where  $n$  is the number of years the money is invested. Approximately how many years will it take for Lena's money to double in value?

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$$A = 2000$$

$$n = ?$$

$$A = 1000(1.075)^n$$

$$2000 = 1000(1.075)^n$$

$$\text{Solve for } n$$

$$\frac{2000}{1000} = (1.075)^n$$

$$2.0 = (1.075)^n$$

$$\text{Estimate } n$$

$$2.0 = (1.075)^{10}$$

n	Base	Soln
10	1.075	2.06
8	1.075	1.78
9	1.075	1.92

Your investment doubles between the 9th and 10th year. (9.6 or July of the 9th year)

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Solve a system of Exponential Relationships using the Pt of Intersection

### Example 3

#### Solve an Equation With More Than One Exponential Expression

The populations of two towns, Telmira and Dancaster, are each described by an equation relating population,  $p$ , in thousands, to time,  $d$ , in decades following the year 1950.

$$\text{Telmira: } p = 5 \times 2^d$$

$$\text{Dancaster: } p = 3^d$$

- Determine the population of each town in 1950.
- When will the towns have the same population? What is the population?



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Solve a system of Exponential Relationships using the Pt of Intersection

p. 370

### Example 3 Solve an Equation With More Than One Exponential Expression

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$$\text{Telmira: } p = 5 \times 2^d$$

$$\text{Dancaster: } p = 3^d$$

a) Determine the population of each town in 1950.

b) When will the towns have the same population? What is the population?

$$d = 0 (1950)$$

$$T \Rightarrow p = 5 \times 2^d$$

$$p = 5 \times 2^0$$

$$p = 5 \times 1$$

$$p = 5$$

$$\text{Pop} = 5000$$

$$D \Rightarrow p = 3^d$$

$$p = 3^0$$

$$p = 1$$

$$\text{Pop} = 1000 \text{ people}$$

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Solve a system of Exponential Relationships using the Pt of Intersection

p. 370

**Example 3 Solve an Equation With More Than One Exponential Expression**

The populations of two towns, Telmira and Dancaester, are each described by an equation relating population,  $p$ , in thousands, to time,  $d$ , in decades following the year 1950.

Telmira:  $p = 5 \cdot 2^d$   
 Dancaester:  $p = 3^d$

a) Determine the population of each town in 1950.  
 b) When will the towns have the same population? What is the population?

b)

$5 \times 2^d = 3^d$

$3^4 = 5 \cdot 2^4$

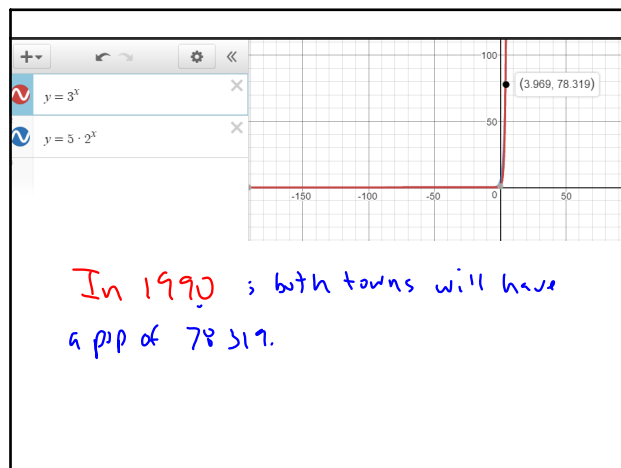
$d = 1$   
 $d = 6$   
 $d = 4$

$3^4 = 5 \cdot 2^4$   
 $81 = 80$

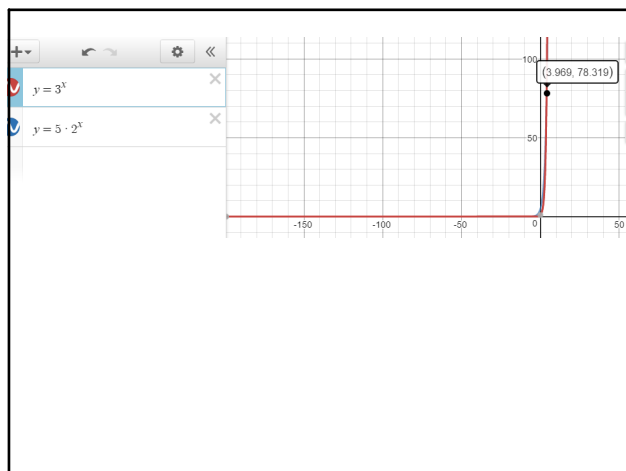
Graph  
 Calc Pt of Int  
 397, 78

$\therefore$  Just before 1990 both populations reach 78,000

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Nov 10-12:25 PM

**Key Concepts**

- There are a variety of tools and strategies that can be used to solve equations involving exponential expressions. The choice may depend on where the variable appears.
- To solve an equation where the variable is an exponent, use systematic trial or graphing technology.
- To solve an equation where the variable is raised to an exponent,  $n$ , take the  $n$ th root of both sides of the equation.
- To solve an equation with more than one exponential expression, use graphing technology.

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Hmk. p. 373 -375  
 q. 1-7, 9, 10 & 12\*

Mar 8-7:37 AM